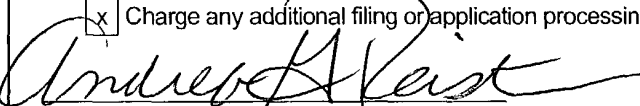


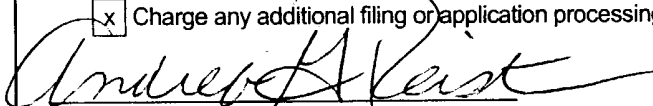


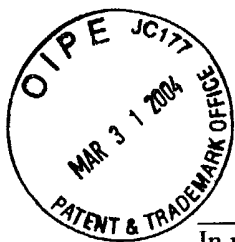
41

16/18/

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Docket No. 000166.0108-US01	
Application No. 10/022,859-Conf. #1415		Filing Date December 20, 2001		Examiner A. E. Pulliam	
				Art Unit 1615	
Applicant(s): J. Michael Ramstack et al.					
Invention: PREPARATION OF MICROPARTICLES HAVING IMPROVED FLOWABILITY					
<b>TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS</b>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	50	- 51 =		x	0.00
Independent Claims	10	- 8 =	2	x 86	172.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>					172.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity					
<input type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____.					
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check including the amount of \$ 172.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 50-0740 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 Andrea G. Reister Attorney Reg. No. 36,253				Dated: March 31, 2004	
COVINGTON & BURLING 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20004-2401 (202) 662-6000					



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Docket No.: 000166.0108-US01  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
J. Michael Ramstack et al.

Application No.: 10/022,859

Art Unit: 1615

Filed: December 20, 2001

Examiner: A. E. Pulliam

For: PREPARATION OF MICROPARTICLES  
HAVING IMPROVED FLOWABILITY

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 1, 2003 (Paper No. 5), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0740.

04/01/2004 HGUTEMAI 00000029 10022859

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DC: 1293487-1